



EAST KENT (No. 1) UNITED DISTRICTS

COMPRISING :-

Bridge-Blean Rural District;
Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District;
and
Herne Bay Urban District

Annual Report

FOR THE YEAR

1944

BY THE

Medical Officers of Health :

W. G. EVANS, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.;

J. V. WALKER, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.;

and

G. L. BROCKLEHURST, M.D., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

EAST KENT (No. 1) UNITED DISTRICTS

comprising:

Bridge-Blean Rural District;
Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District;
and
Herne Bay Urban District.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

for the Year

1 9 4 4

by the

MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH:

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EAST KENT (No. 1) UNITED DISTRICTS.

J O I N T C O M M I T T E E

(for the Year 1944)

Bridge-Blean Rural District Council:

Councillor T. Hills.

Councillor C. B. Hosking.

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council:

Councillor S. W. Fright. (Vice Chairman).

Councillor H. Noble.

Councillor B. J. Pearson, J.P., C.C.

Herne Bay Urban District Council:

Councillor C. S. Jones. (Chairman).

Councillor E. R. Metcalf.

Clerk: E. F. Owen,
Council Offices,
Pierremont Hall,
Broadstairs.



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S T A F F:

MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH:

Bridge-Blean Rural District:
W. G. EVANS, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District:
J. V. WALKER, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Herne Bay Urban District:
G. L. BROCKLEHURST, M.D., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspectors:

Bridge-Blean Rural District:- H. K. BLUNDELL, B.Sc., M.S.I.A.
(Senior Sanitary Inspector).

One Additional Sanitary Inspector
and
Two Lady Clerks.

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District:- F. S. BURROW, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.
One Lady Clerk.

Herne Bay Urban District:- C. J. CLARK, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I.
(Senior Sanitary Inspector).
One Additional Sanitary Inspector
and
One Lady Clerk.

Clerk to the Medical Officers of Health:

Miss H. Y. Phillips, F.C.T.C.Inc., F.I.P.S.

SECTION A.STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area: The United Districts, which are situated at the north-east corner of East Kent, consist of the following:-

	Acres.	
Bridge-Blean Rural District.	55,868	) Including
Broadstairs and St. Peter's		) Inland
Urban District	... 2,771	) Water.
Herne Bay Urban Districts...	8,566	)

Total area ... 67,205

VITAL STATISTICS.UNITED DISTRICTS.

	Total.	M.	F.		United Districts.	England & Wales.
Live Births-	635	322	313	Birth Rate	17.00	17.6
Legitimate	584	298	286	per 1,000		
Illegitimate	51	24	27	estimated		
				civilian		
				population		
				mid-1944.		
Stillbirths-	18	9	9	Rate per	27.56	Not
				1,000		Avail-
				total (live		able.
				and still)		
				Births.		
Deaths -	576	270	306	Death Rate	15.42	11.6
				per 1,000		
				estimated		
				civilian		
				population		
				mid-1944.		

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List):-

		<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Rate per</u>	<u>United</u> <u>Districts.</u>	<u>England</u> <u>& Wales.</u>
No.29. Puerperal Sepsis.	1	1,000	1.53	0.28	
No.30. Other Maternal		total			
causes ...	1	(live and	1.53	1.25	
		still)			
TOTAL...	2	births.	3.06	1.53	

Death Rate of Infants under one year
of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	53.54		46.00	
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legiti-			)		
mate live births.	...	49.65			
Illegitimate infants per 1,000				)	
illegitimate live births	...	98.03			
					Not
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	95	)	Avail-	
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	-			
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ..		-			able.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years					
of age).	...	4	)		

INFANT MORTALITY		No. of Deaths.
Causes of Death: (Children under 1 year of age).		
Atelectasis of Lungs...	...	2
Bronchitis, Acute ...	...	1
" Influenzal.	...	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage...	...	1
Enteritis ...	...	2
" Gastro ...	...	3
Erythroblastosis Foetalis	...	1
Haemorrhagic Disease of New-born	...	1
Intussusception ...	...	1
Marasmus ...	...	3
Meningocele of 1st and 2nd Lumbar Area		1
Myelo Meningocele ...	...	1
Patent Foramen Ovale...	...	1
Pneumonia, Broncho ...	...	6
Prematurity ...	...	9
TOTAL DEATHS ...	...	34

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.Treatment Centres and Clinics.Tuberculosis Dispensaries and Venereal Disease Clinics.

The following tables show the days and times when the above Clinics are open for the attendance of patients residing in the United Districts:-

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARIES:	Day and Time of Attendance.
Canterbury: 18, New Dover Road.	Friday: 10- 0 a.m. to 12- 0 noon.
Herne Bay: K.C.C. Clinic, King's Road.	Tuesday: 10- 0 a.m. to 12- 0 noon.
Margate: Eton House, 41, St. Peter's Road.	Friday: 1-30 p.m. to 3-30 p.m.
Ramsgate: K.C.C. Clinic, South Eastern Road.	Friday: 10-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m.

VENEREAL DISEASE CLINICS:		Day and Time of Attendance.
Kent and Canterbury Hospital.	Women	Tuesday 4- 0 to 5- 0 p.m. Friday 3- 0 to 4- 0 p.m.
	Men	Tuesday 5-15 to 6-30 p.m. Friday 4-15 to 5-30 p.m.
Eton House, 41, St. Peter's Road, Margate.	Women	Saturday 1-30 to 2-30 p.m.
	Men	Saturday 2-30 to 3-30 p.m.
Royal Victoria Hospital, Dover.	Women	Monday 4- 0 p.m. Thursday 4- 0 p.m.
	Men	Monday 4- 0 p.m. Thursday 4- 0 p.m.

SECTIONS C, D AND E.

For the above Sections see separate District Reports.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND
OTHER DISEASES.

Diphtheria Immunization.

This is dealt with fully in the separate District Reports.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

The following tables give the combined particulars for the United Districts with regard to cases of Tuberculosis and other notifiable infectious diseases:-

T U B E R C U L O S I S								
New Cases and Mortality during the Year 1944.								
Age Periods.	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 ...	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
5 ...	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-
15 ...	5	3	-	1	-	3	-	-
25 ...	4	2	-	1	3	2	-	-
35 ...	2	1	1	-	4	4	-	-
45 ...	1	-	-	-	3	1	-	-
55 ...	3	-	-	-	1	2	-	-
65 and over.	2	2	-	-	1	1	-	-
TOTALS ...	17	8	3	7	12	13	-	-

The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths was 1 to 25.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (CIVILIAN) DURING THE YEAR 1944
with ANALYSIS OF CASES UNDER AGE GROUPS.

D I S E A S E S.	Total Cases Noti- fied.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths	A G E I N C I D E N C E										65 and over.	
				Under One Year.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45		45-65
Typhoid and Para- Typhoid Fevers...	2	2	1	-	2	-	-	-	41	-	-	-	1	-	1
Scarlet Fever ...	82	67	-	1	4	4	3	7	26	15	1	7	3	1	-
Whooping Cough ...	57	-	-	3	3	7	-	-	2	-	1	2	-	-	-
Diphtheria ...	9	8	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	2	2	2	-	-	-
Measles...	384	2	-	9	36	39	22	-	211	27	5	9	3	-	-
Polomyelitis ...	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia.	65	9	9	2	4	2	3	2	7	2	-	2	5	17	19
Puerperal Pyrexia..	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Dysentery.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Erysipelas ...	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	-
Chickenpox ...	44	-	-	1	4	2	1	2	24	8	1	1	-	-	-
T O T A L S	655	90	10	16	35	55	37	53	311	55	10	23	16	24	20

The total deaths given are not the net deaths.

'Return' Cases - 1 Scarlet Fever.

In addition to the above, 3 cases of notifiable infectious diseases were notified among non-civilians stationed in the United District, as follows:-

Scarlet Fever	...	2
Malaria	...	4
Chickenpox...	...	1
Pneumonia	...	1.

These patients were dealt with by the appropriate Authority.

Returns of Notifications of Infectious Diseases.

In February a Memorandum was received from the General Register Office, Terra Nova, Southport, in relation to a circular letter dated 8th December, 1943, from the Ministry of Health, giving details with regard to a new Form, 118d, (a supply of which was also received), which is required to be completed and returned to the Registrar-General and the County Medical Officer each quarter.

This Form provides for the correction of erroneous notifications of infectious diseases received in the previous thirteen weeks, and for the sub-division of corrected notifications into sex and age groups.

Form 118d is additional to the weekly cards, which will continue to be used as heretofore.

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BRIDGE - BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year

1944.

W. G. EVANS, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

**

Pierremont Hall,
Broadstairs.

30th October, 1945.

To the Chairman and Members of the Joint Committee
of the East Kent (No. 1) United Districts.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Report for the year
1944.

Once again, I am pleased to be able to report that in spite of the war, the health conditions in the Rural District compare **favourably** with those of peace time.

Examination of the vital statistics does show, however, an unsatisfactory feature, and that is the infant mortality rate, which rose to 45.16 compared with 28.26 for 1943. While it was perhaps too much to hope to maintain the figure at the unusually low rate of last year, the large increase is disappointing.

The number of new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, i.e.-ten, is the same as last year. There were three new cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis compared with seven last year. In view of the increase in the incidence of tuberculosis in other areas, this can be regarded as satisfactory.

There was one case of diphtheria in the District: immunization against this disease continues to be pressed forward as in previous years. The percentage of children under five years immunized cannot be regarded as satisfactory: it should, however, be remembered that it is impossible at present to obtain reliable figures for the population at these ages; it seems probable that 41.15% is a low estimate.

I must again acknowledge the valuable assistance received from Mr. Blundell and his staff; and Miss Phillips, Clerk to the Health Department (at Broadstairs); and the co-operation of the other Officers of the Rural District Council.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

W. G. EVANS.

Medical Officer of Health.

BRIDGE-BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT.SECTION A.STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (including inland water)	...	55,868 acres.
Population, 1944 (Registrar-General)		17,730
Rateable Value (April, 1944)	...	£98,678: 0: 0.
Estimated sum represented by ld. rate - (March, 1944)	...	£429: 8: 4.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total	M.	F.		Bridge-Blean Rural District.	England & Wales.
Live Births-	310	152	158	Birth Rate	17.48	17.6
Legitimate	290	142	148	per 1,000		
Illegitimate	20	10	10	estimated		
				civilian		
				population		
				mid-1944.		

(Illegitimate percentage of total live births - 6.45).

Stillbirths-	7	3	4	Rate per	22.08	Not
				1,000 total		Avail-
				(live and		able.
				still)		
				births.		
Deaths -	212	104	108	Death Rate	11.95	11.6
				per 1,000		
				estimated		
				civilian		
				population		
				mid-1944.		

Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List):-

		<u>Bridge-Blean</u>		<u>England</u>
		<u>Rural District.</u>		<u>& Wales.</u>
<u>Deaths.</u>				
No.29. Puerperal	Rate per			
Sepsis..	- 1,000	---		0.28
No.30. Other Mater-	total			
nal causes.	1 (live and	3.15		1.25
	still)			
Total ...	1 births.	3.15		1.53

Death Rate of Infants under one
year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births...	45.16		46.00
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legiti-		)	
mate live births ...	44.82	)	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000		)	Not
illegitimate live births ...	50.00	)	
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	39	)	Avail-
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...	---	)	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	---	)	able.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years		)	
of age)..	... 2	)	

INFANT MORTALITY		
Causes of Death: (Children under 1 year of age).		No. of Deaths.
Atelectasis of Left Lung	...	1
Bronchitis, Acute	...	1
Enteritis, Gastro	...	2
Erythroblastosis Foetalis	...	1
Haemorrhagic Disease of Newborn	...	1
Marasmus ...	...	1
Myelo Meningocele	...	1
Patent Foramen Ovale	...	1
Broncho Pneumonia	...	3
Prematurity ...	...	2
TOTAL INFANT DEATHS	...	14

CAUSES OF DEATH IN BRIDGE-BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT
DURING 1944.

A L L C A U S E S.		Males	Females
		104	108
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	-	-
2.	Cerebrospinal Fever ...	-	-
3.	Scarlet Fever ...	-	-
4.	Whooping Cough ...	-	-
5.	Diphtheria ...	-	-
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	3	7
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis...	-	-
8.	Syphilitic diseases ...	-	-
9.	Influenza ...	-	2
10.	Measles ...	-	-
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio- Encephalitis ...	-	-
12.	Acute Infectious Encephalitis.	-	-
13.	Cancer of buccal cavity and œso- phagus (M): uterus (F) ...	1	3
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	4	4
15.	Cancer of breast...	-	2
16.	Cancer of all other sites ...	15	10
17.	Diabetes ...	-	1
18.	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	4	10
19.	Heart Disease ...	31	33
20.	Other diseases of the circulatory system ...	1	2
21.	Bronchitis ...	4	3
22.	Pneumonia ...	2	4
23.	Other respiratory diseases ...	4	3
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum..	4	-
25.	Diarrhœa (Under two years)...	1	1
26.	Appendicitis ...	-	1
27.	Other digestive diseases ...	2	-
28.	Nephritis ...	3	4
29.	Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	-	-
30.	Other maternal causes ...	-	1
31.	Premature Birth ...	1	1
32.	Congenital causes, etc. ...	5	-
33.	Suicide ...	-	-
34.	Road traffic accidents ...	4	1
35.	Other violent causes ...	4	4
36.	All other causes...	11	11

SECTION B.GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.Laboratory Facilities.

There was no change during the year in the laboratory facilities for the Rural District: most examinations were carried out at the County Laboratory, Maidstone. A few pathological examinations, in connection with patients admitted to the City of Canterbury Isolation Hospital, were dealt with in Canterbury.

Ambulance Facilities.(a) Infectious Cases.

The ambulance of the City of Canterbury Isolation Hospital was used for the removal of infectious cases from the Bridge-Blean Rural District.

(b) Non-Infectious Cases.

Ambulances from the Kent and Canterbury Hospital and the St. John Ambulance Brigade (Herne Bay Division) were available for cases of general sickness, disease and accidents which occurred in the Rural District; there was also an ambulance at the Chislet Colliery for the use of the workmen there; and the Canterbury Civil Defence Ambulances were also available for work in the Rural District.

There was no change as regards co-ordination.

Nursing in the Home.

An efficient system of District Nursing was in operation in the Rural District, twenty-four parishes being served by the local District Nursing Associations affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association; the other two parishes were served by local Associations.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

There were six Centres in the Rural District, carried on by the County Council at the following places:-

Barham
Bridge
Hersden

Littlebourne
Petham
Sturry.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinic.

An Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinic was held at "Wyngate," Island Road, Sturry.

Dental Clinic.

A School Dental Clinic was held in Canterbury, which served the surrounding district, including the Bridge-Blean area. There were also facilities for the dental treatment of nursing and expectant mothers, and infants under five years of age, attending the Kent County Council Welfare Centres around the Canterbury District.

Orthopædic Clinic.

This Clinic was held at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury, the Surgeon in attendance being A. B. Beresford-Jones Esq., M.S., M.B..

Tuberculosis Dispensaries.

The Dispensaries at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury, and at the Kent County Council Clinic, Herne Bay, were available for the inhabitants of the Bridge-Blean Rural District. The days and times when the Dispensaries are open are shown on page 6.

Venereal Diseases Clinics.

The Clinics at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury, and at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Dover, were available at the usual times for anyone residing in the Rural District. For days and times of Clinics see page 6.

Hospitals.Isolation Hospital Accommodation.

Cases of infectious disease which were notified in the Rural District were removed to the City of Canterbury Isolation Hospital for treatment.

Smallpox Hospital.

The arrangement made with the Dover Town Council for cases of Smallpox to be admitted for isolation and treatment to the Borough's Smallpox Hospital at Poulton was still in force during 1944: fortunately no cases of this disease were notified in the Rural District.

General Hospitals.

This District was served by the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury, and the Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital, Herne Bay.

SECTION C.SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.Water.

The Rural District is supplied with water from three different public supplies and local wells: nine parishes are served by the Margate Corporation, five by the Mid-Kent Water Company, and six by the Canterbury Gas and Water Company; three other parishes are served by the latter Company and local wells; approximately eighty per cent. of the houses are supplied with main water, and it is hoped that by 1945 every parish will be connected to the mains.

Eleven samples of water taken from the three public supplies and sent to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination, showed them to be good waters and quite satisfactory; and of six samples taken from private supplies only one proved to be satisfactory.

Drainage and Sewerage.

There are two sewerage schemes in operation, one for the Parish of Harbledown and one for the village of Hersden, situated in the Parish of Westbere. In the remainder of the District sewage is disposed of by means of privies, pail closets and W.C's draining into cesspools.

No extensions were made during the year. The Harbledown beds are working satisfactorily, but the Hersden system is still unsatisfactory, the sewage entering the river in practically a crude state.

Public Cleansing.

The Council undertakes the emptying of cesspools and the removal of the contents of pails: an efficient system of doing this by means of mechanical vehicles is employed. There were no extensions of these services during the year.

Hop-pickers' Encampments.

Fourteen Hop-pickers' camps were occupied during the year, housing approximately 1,200 persons engaged in hop-picking.

The lodging accommodation and sanitary arrangements were fair, and most of the camps had a main water supply, but the cookhouse accommodation was bad. However, the general camp supervision appeared to be good.

Fifty-seven inspections were made by the Sanitary Inspectors during 1944.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector reports as follows with regard to the sanitary inspection of the area:-

Total number of visits of all kinds made by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year	...	1,605.
---	-----	--------

SUMMARY OF NUISANCES AND DEFECTS REMEDIED.			
Overcrowding cases	...	...	4
Defective closet accommodation...	...	...	10
Drainage systems re-constructed or repaired	...	...	25
Refuse receptacles	...	...	-
Defective roofs...	...	...	-
Defective walls...	...	...	-
Defective windows including new windows provided	...	...	-
Defective floors..	...	...	7
Washing and cooking facilities...	...	...	-
Miscellaneous items including re-decoration and painting ...	...	...	14

Factories Act, 1937.

Eleven visits were paid to the 28 Factories and Workshops in the Rural District during the year.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

When disinfection is necessary in the Rural District, the method used is to spray with "Zaldecide," this work being carried out by the Local Authority under the supervision of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION D. - HOUSING.

War conditions have not particularly affected the housing situation in the Rural District: houses are badly needed, but mostly to replace unsatisfactory property.

SECTION E.- INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk.

In the year 1944 there were 120 Producers and 38 Retailers of milk in the Rural District, and 273 visits were made to these premises by the Sanitary Inspectors.

Seven farms were licensed to produce Tuberculin Tested milk and 24 to produce Accredited milk.

One hundred and thirty-nine samples of milk were submitted to the County Council Laboratory for bacteriological examination: details of the samples submitted and results were as follows:-

Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	47	(42 Satisfactory)
Accredited Milk ...	...	92	(69 Satisfactory).

Appropriate action followed in the case of unsatisfactory samples.

Four samples were examined for the presence of tubercle bacilli and all proved to be negative.

School Milk.

Thirty-eight samples of school milk were taken from 14 different schools by the School Inquiry Officer and sent to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination: thirty-three of these proved to be satisfactory.

Meat and Other Foods.

There were eight slaughter-houses in the Rural District, but since 1941 routine slaughtering has been carried out in the City of Canterbury, under the Ministry of Food Centralizing Slaughtering Scheme.

With regard to other foods, the Sanitary Inspectors made a total of 45 visits during the year, of food premises, which included inspections at the 16 bakehouses.

During 1944 a total of approximately 7 cwts. 4 qrs. of food was condemned as unfit for human consumption.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Diphtheria Immunization.

The scheme continued to operate as in previous years: Clinics were arranged as necessary by the Health

Visitors for large groups of children, and by General Practitioners in their own Surgeries for small numbers and individual cases. The accompanying table gives the figures for the last four years. The assistance of the County Health Visitors, the School Teachers and the Doctors in this work is much appreciated.

Year.	No. of Children Immunized		
	Under 5 Years.	5 to 15 Years.	Total
December, 1940 to 31st December, 1941.	473	1,502	1,975
1st January to 31st December, 1942.	140	175	315
1st January to 31st December, 1943.	325	120	445
1st January to 31st December, 1944.	114	30	144
T O T A L ...	1,052	1,827	2,879
Estimated No. of Children immunized at end of 1944, in age groups ...	535	1,951	2,486
Estimated Total No. of Children in the District at 31st December, 1944 ...	1,300	2,154	3,454
Estimated percentage of Children immunized at 31st December, 1944, in age groups ...	41.15	90.57	71.97

Supply of Serum.

Diphtheria Anti-Toxin is provided by the Council free of charge and supplied to Medical Practitioners for the use

of the poorer inhabitants of the district, in accordance with the Diphtheria Anti-Toxin (Outside London) Order, 1910. A supply is kept by the Senior Sanitary Inspector at his office.

Infectious Diseases.

The incidence of infectious disease was within normal limits and the following tables give the numbers of notifiable infectious diseases notified during the year 1944.-

T U B E R C U L O S I S.									
New Cases and Mortality during the Year 1944.									
Age Periods.	New Cases				Deaths				
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
0 . . .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
1 . . .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
5 . . .	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	
15 . . .	1	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	
25 . . .	2	1	-	1	2	2	-	-	
35 . . .	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
45 . . .	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
55 . . .	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
65 and over.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
T O T A L S.	5	5	1	2	3	7	-	-	

There were no non-notified cases during the year.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (CIVILIAN) DURING THE YEAR 1944
with ANALYSIS OF CASES UNDER AGE GROUPS.

D I S E A S E S.	Total Cases Noti- fied.	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths	A G E I N C I D E N C E											
				Under One Year.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over.
Typhoid and Para- Typhoid Fevers..	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	15	4	-	-	1	-	-
Scarlet Fever ...	29	24	-	-	4	6	5	7	22	-	-	1	-	-	-
Whooping Cough ...	47	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	1	1	-	-	-
Diphtheria ...	6	5	-	-	-	3	-	-	62	9	2	4	-	-	-
Measles... ..	112	-	-	-	7	8	8	9	-	-	1	4	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	1	1	13	5
Pneumonia.	29	5	3	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas ...	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-
Chickenpox ...	Not notifiable in the Rural District.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
T O T A L S	227	34	3	6	13	16	17	18	103	16	3	11	2	17	5

The total deaths given are not the net deaths.

'Return' Cases

Nil.

In addition to the above, two cases of Malaria Relapse were notified among non-civilians stationed in the Rural District: these patients were dealt with by the appropriate Authority.

Non-Notifiable Diseases.Chickenpox.

During the second quarter of the year an outbreak of Chickenpox occurred at the Womenswold Junior School.

Pemphigus.

On the 15th September, 1944, a case of Pemphigus was reported, a baby girl, eighteen days old, at one of the Hop-pickers' Encampments: this child was removed, in error, to the Ashford Isolation Hospital, where she unfortunately died the same day. The patient's family were from Dover and they had come into the Rural District for Hop-picking.

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BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER'S URBAN DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year

1944.

J. V. WALKER, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

**

3rd July, 1945.

To the Chairman and Members of the Joint Committee
of the East Kent (No. 1) United Districts.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my second Annual Report, as Medical Officer of Health for the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council.

The year 1944 falls naturally into two parts, a first period till the late summer, when the war situation remained as urgent as ever, or even more so; and the period since that time, when as a result of victories on the Continent, the sense of emergency began to retreat from the area and the move towards normal conditions began.

From the point of view of public health, the past year presents no unusual features: there were no epidemics; and Infant Mortality, that most sensitive index of social conditions, though higher than last year, was not indicative of any real deterioration of sanitary circumstances.

It may be noted, in passing, that where numbers are small, as in the Urban District during 1944, wide fluctuations, whose real significance is much less than would appear, are easily set up in rates per 1,000.

Various war time expedients to carry out many necessary works, such as District Nursing and the provision of a Town Ambulance Service, were maintained as in previous years, by the authority of the Health and Housing Committee, through the co-operation of the Civil Defence Personnel.

I should like to thank the members of the United Districts Joint Committee and of the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council for their constant interest and support, and also to thank the members of my staff for their loyalty and zealous co-operation.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,
J. V. WALKER.
Medical Officer of Health.

BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER'S URBAN DISTRICT.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (including inland water)	...	2,771 acres.
Population, 1944 (Registrar-General)		5,568
Rateable Value (April, 1944)	...	£140,929: 0: 0.
Estimated sum represented by ld. rate - (Cash basis)	...	£300: 0: 0.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total	M.	F.		Broadstairs & St. Peter's Urban District.	England & Wales.
Live Births-	93	46	47	Birth Rate	16.70	17.6
				per 1,000		
Legitimate	82	43	39	estimated		
				civilian		
Illegitimate	11	3	8	population		
				mid-1944.		

(Illegitimate percentage of total live births - 11.82)

Stillbirths-	3	1	2	Rate per	31.25	Not
				1,000 per		Avail-
				(live and		able.
				still)		
				births.		
Deaths	94	45	49	Death Rate	16.88	11.6
				per 1,000		
				estimated		
				civilian		
				population		
				mid-1944.		

Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings
29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's
Short List):

Broadstairs
& St. Peter's England
Urban District. & Wales.

Deaths.

No.29. Puerperal		Rate per		
Sepsis..	-	1,000	---	0.28
No.30. Other Mater-		total		
nal causes.	-	(live and	---	1.25
		still)		
Total ...	-	births.	---	1.53

Death Rate of Infants under one
year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births.	64.51	46.00
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legi-		)
timate live births ...	48.78	)
Illegitimate infants per 1,000		) Not
illegitimate live births...	181.81	)
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	21	) Avail-
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...	---	)
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	---	) able.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years		)
of age) ..	---	)

INFANT MORTALITY.

Causes of Death: (Children under 1 year of age).		No. of Deaths.
Marasmus ...	...	1
Prematurity ...	...	5

CAUSES OF DEATH IN BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER'S URBAN
DISTRICT DURING 1944.

A L L C A U S E S.		Males	Females
		45	49
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	-	-
2.	Cerebrospinal Fever ...	-	-
3.	Scarlet Fever ...	-	-
4.	Whooping Cough ...	-	-
5.	Diphtheria ...	-	-
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	2	2
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis...	-	-
8.	Syphilitic Diseases ...	1	-
9.	Influenza ...	-	-
10.	Measles ...	-	-
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio- Encephalitis ...	-	-
12.	Acute Infectious Encephalitis.	-	-
13.	Cancer of buccal cavity and œso- phagus (M); uterus (F) ...	-	2
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	-	-
15.	Cancer of breast...	-	3
16.	Cancer of all other sites ...	6	8
17.	Diabetes ...	-	2
18.	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	5	4
19.	Heart Disease ...	18	14
20.	Other diseases of the circulatory system ...	2	1
21.	Bronchitis ...	3	-
22.	Pneumonia ...	-	3
23.	Other respiratory diseases ...	-	-
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum..	-	-
25.	Diarrhœa (Under two years)...	-	-
26.	Appendicitis ...	-	1
27.	Other Digestive Diseases ...	-	1
28.	Nephritis ...	1	1
29.	Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	-	-
30.	Other maternal causes ...	-	-
31.	Premature birth ...	1	4
32.	Congenital causes, etc. ...	1	-
33.	Suicide ...	-	-
34.	Road traffic accidents ...	-	1
35.	Other violent causes ...	1	-
36.	All other causes...	4	2

SECTION B.GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological examinations were carried out as hitherto, at the County Laboratory, County Hall, Maidstone. A few clinical investigations, secondary to the acceptance of candidates for superannuation under the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council were carried out at Ramsgate.

Ambulance Facilities.(a) Infectious Cases.

The arrangements previously made by the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital Board with the Whitstable and District Ambulance Committee, for the removal by ambulance of patients suffering from infectious diseases to the Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital, continued until the end of February, when a new arrangement came into force, whereby cases of infectious disease needing removal to the Isolation Hospital, were conveyed in the Haine Hospital ambulance, which was loaned by the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital Board to the Ramsgate Borough's Civil Defence Service and which, on these occasions, was manned by Ramsgate's Civil Defence personnel.

(b) Non-Infectious Cases.

The Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council continued to operate the two ambulances of the British Red Cross Society, which were manned by the personnel of the Civil Defence Ambulance Service. The arrangement worked satisfactorily through the year and the following are the particulars of the work carried out.

Patients conveyed by:-	No. of Patients.	Mileage covered.
Town Ambulances ...	99	2,070 miles.
Sitting Case Cars ...	568	3,391 "
T O T A L S ...	667	5,461 "

Nursing in the Home.

The work of the district nursing continued to be carried out by Auxiliaries at the First Aid Post, in accordance with permission granted by the Senior Regional Officer of the Ministry of Health on the 31st December, 1941.

The work of the Auxiliaries was highly satisfactory and much appreciated by the inhabitants of the Urban District, and by the Medical Practitioners. An analysis of the cases attended is as follows:-

D I A G N O S I S	No. of Patients	No. of Visits
<u>Diseases of Heart and Blood Vessels:</u>		
Apoplexy ...	3	23
Myocardial Degeneration...	4	85
Morbus Cordis ...	1	20
Endocarditis ...	1	6
<u>Diseases of Respiratory System:</u>		
Pleurisy ...	1	4
Bronchitis ...	2	36
<u>Diseases of the Genito Urinary System:</u>		
Enlarged Prostate ...	1	67
<u>Diseases of Bones, Joints and Muscles:</u>		
Arthritis ...	1	366
<u>Diseases of Blood and Blood-forming Organs:</u>		
Pernicious Anaemia ...	1	8
<u>Cancer:</u>		
Carcinoma of Colon ...	1	14
Cancer of Liver ...	1	21
Carcinoma of Pancreas ...	2	5
CARRIED FORWARD..	19	655

D I A G N O S I S	No. of Patients	No. of Visits
BROUGHT FORWARD ...	19	655
<u>Senility:</u> ...	4	211
<u>Other Conditions:</u>		
Kidney Dressing.. ...	1	365
Ulcerated Feet... ..	1	2
Ulcerated and Septic Legs ...	2	109
Dressing on Burnt Leg ...	1	2
A.T.S. Injection. ...	1	1
Breast Dressing.. ...	1	39
Fractured Thigh.. ...	1	9
<u>Last Offices:</u> ...	20*	20
<u>Enemas:</u> ...	6	19
TOTAL No. of Patients and Visits:	57	1,432

* Ten of this number are the same patients as shown under the other headings.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.

The Centre was carried on by the County Council at the Clinic in St. Peter's Road, Broadstairs.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinic.

This Clinic was held on the first and third Wednesday in each month at the Clinic in St. Peter's Road, Broadstairs.

During the year the Government Scheme for the evacuation of expectant mothers to maternity homes and hostels in or near Tunbridge Wells and other places continued, and the arrangements were made, through the office of the Medical Officer of Health, by the Sanitary Inspector. Eight expectant mothers availed themselves of this opportunity which, compared with 68 notified births for the year, gave a proportion of 11.76 per cent.

Tuberculosis Dispensaries.

Patients from Broadstairs and St. Peter's attended dispensaries run by the Kent County Council at Margate and Ramsgate as hitherto. Domiciliary visiting was carried out by the Tuberculosis Officer for the District and by Nurse E. Brammer, who combines the office of Tuberculosis Nurse with that of Health Visitor. For days and times when Dispensaries are open see page 6.

Venereal Diseases.

Arrangements for treatment at Margate, Canterbury and Dover, under the auspices of the Kent County Council, continued as hitherto: the days and times of the Clinics are shown on page 6.

Hospitals.

Isolation Hospital Accommodation.

During 1944 patients suffering from infectious illnesses and requiring removal to Isolation Hospital continued to be admitted to the Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital, owing to the continued use of Haine Isolation Hospital for other purposes and the suspension of the activities of the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital Board.

Special Arrangements for Smallpox Cases.

By agreement with the Kent County Council, cases of Smallpox would have been admitted to one of the inland Hospitals, by arrangement with the County Medical Officer; fortunately no such cases arose.

General Hospitals.

The Urban District is served by the Ramsgate General Hospital and the Margate and District General Hospital for cases of illness and accident.

Registration of Nursing Homes.

One Nursing Home was on the Register at the end of the year: this Home has seven beds, but no provision for maternity cases. The Medical Officer of Health carried out one inspection during the year.

SECTION C.- SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

A full account of the water supply of the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District was given in the Annual Report for 1938 and no changes since then have been reported.

Bacteriological investigations were carried out at the County Laboratory, Maidstone, at fortnightly intervals and every two months a chemical analysis was made at the South Eastern Analytical Laboratory at Canterbury. These procedures made an effective check upon the quality of the water, which remained at a high level.

The one natural defect which the water possessed was its high degree of hardness and the "Permutit" softening system, previously described, continued to operate. The water had no plumbo solvent action.

All dwelling-houses in the area are connected with the Council's water mains and have a constant and sufficient supply.

Drainage and Sewerage) There were no changes under
Closet Accommodation.) these headings.

Public Cleansing.

There was no change to record in the administration of this service.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The Sanitary Inspector reports as follows:-

Total number of visits of all kinds made by the Sanitary Inspector during the year	
1944 ...	1,972.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.			
Dampness remedied	...	...	5
Inspection Chambers constructed/repared	...	...	1
Inspection Covers and Frames provided	...	...	5
Drains cleansed	...	...	18
Drains, new ...	...	...	4
Drains, re-laid/repared	...	...	10
Doors or Frames repared	...	...	2
Eaves guttering repared	...	...	4
Gullies provided/repared	...	...	6
Ventilating or Soilpipes provided or repared..	...	...	1
Rainwater pipes repared	...	...	5
Soakaways constructed	...	...	1
Soakaways cleansed	...	...	1
Out-buildings demolished	...	...	1
New W.C. basins fixed	...	...	3
W.C. repairs...	...	...	17
Windows repared	...	...	20
Accumulations removed	...	...	31
Miscellaneous repairs	...	...	21
Miscellaneous nuisances	...	...	23
Ranges repared	...	...	4
Roofs repared.	...	...	2
Sinks and Sink Wastepipes provided/repared	...	...	2
Dustbins provided	...	...	17
Floors repared	...	...	19
Yard paving constructed/repared	...	...	1
Nuisances from the keeping of animals	...	...	4
Dirty houses cleansed	...	...	4
Premises cleared of Insect Pests:-			
	Bugs	...	2
	Fleas	...	5
	Moths	...	49
	Furniture Beetle	...	4
	Miscellaneous	...	1
Wasps' Nests destroyed	...	...	56

Factories Act, 1937.

Seventy-nine premises fall within the scope of the above Act, but many of the businesses were closed down owing to the war. Twenty-eight inspections were made during the year and eight defects found and remedied.

Shops and Offices.

Visits were made as follows to shop premises to ascertain whether the provisions of the Shops Act were being complied with:-

Inspections	...	29
General Surveys...		9
Interviews	...	12.

No action was found necessary under the provisions of Section 10, Shops Acts, 1934, which deals with ventilation, temperature, sanitary conveniences, lighting and washing facilities.

Camping Sites.

There are no civilian camping sites in the area and no licences were issued under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Smoke Abatement.

There are very few factories in the district of a type liable to cause smoke nuisances. No smoke nuisances from factory chimneys were observed during the year.

Swimming Baths.

The seven swimming baths in the district were used for the storage of water for fire fighting purposes.

Mosquito Nuisance in Static Water Tanks.

Ministry of Health Circular 2622, issued on the 8th April, 1942, referred to the necessity for taking action to prevent mosquitoes breeding in static water tanks. Following inspections, representations were made to the National Fire Service in respect of seven bathing pools and five specially constructed tanks, used for storing water for fire fighting purposes. Fresh water was provided in all cases where required

and the arrangements made for the addition of chemical substances to the water to retard mosquito breeding.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

During the year two verminous houses were disinfested. The rooms affected were thoroughly sprayed with liquid insecticide, with satisfactory results in each case.

Damage by Moth.

Fifty-four inquiries were received during the year regarding the assistance rendered by the Council in moth destruction; forty-nine premises and/or furnishings were disinfested and inspections made and advice given in other cases, giving the following totals since the scheme was commenced in June, 1943.-

Inquiries received to 31st December,		
1944	...	... 134
Premises and/or furnishings disin-		
festes	...	... 93.

Destruction of Rats and Mice.

Action has been taken in this district over a period of many years (a) to prevent rats and mice breeding in any part of the area; (b) to destroy rats and mice at the first sign of infestation.

Inspections were carried out regularly in all parts of the area followed by gassing, trapping and poisoning, whichever was the most suitable for any particular case. Rat poison was supplied free to persons who notified the existence of rats on or near their premises: this free issue is well known to the inhabitants and ensures that -

- (a) action is taken immediately rats are seen, thus preventing their unrestricted breeding; and -
- (b) the office of the Local Authority dealing with this matter has up-to-date information of the sites where rats are known to exist.

Poison was supplied during 1944 to 247 applicants and 505 visits were made in connection with Rat destruction work.

Disinfection.

Disinfection was carried out during the year as follows:-

Rooms fumigated	...	14
Rooms sprayed	...	188
Batches of bedding steam disinfected		65.

SECTION D. - HOUSING.

At the end of 1944 there were approximately 900 unoccupied houses in the district, owing to the voluntary evacuation scheme: few of these were available for letting, some belonging to evacuated persons who will return to the district, and others being held for sale.

During the last six months of the year a demand arose for working-class houses, from persons coming in to the area, mainly from districts subject to flying bomb and rocket attacks.

Owing to Civil Defence duties, no routine housing inspections were made, but in all cases where housing defects were reported, action was taken to have the defects remedied.

Three hundred and three visits were made during the year.

SECTION E. - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Water.

Reports upon samples of the public water supply showed the following results:-

Bacteriological examination...	25	(All satisfactory)
Chemical examination	... 8	(" ")

Milk.Registration of Dairies, Dairymen and Retail Purveyors.

At the end of the year six producers were registered in respect of seven premises in connection with the milk supply of the district. Three cowkeepers' premises were not in use for milk production during 1944. Two cowkeepers were licensed to produce "Accredited" milk and two to produce ungraded milk.

The following are the particulars of the retail purveyors of milk in the District:-

Retail Purveyors in the District ...	6)
Retailers of milk from outside area. 12)	43.
Retailers of milk in sealed con-	)
tainers only ...	... 25)

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

The requirements of the above Order as to care and cleanliness in production, storage and delivery of milk are generally complied with. Eighty-four inspections of cowsheds and dairies were made during 1944 and 17 defects were found and remedied.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk Samples.

The following numbers of milk samples were submitted to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination:-

Grade of Milk.	No. of Samples taken.	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory.
Accredited Milk ...	11	8	3
Ungraded Milk ...	12	9	3
T O T A L S ...	23	17	6

Biological Tests for Tuberculosis.

Seven samples of milk were submitted for examination, six proved to be free from tuberculosis, and one sample was positive. The latter sample was from the

bulk supply of thirteen farms and information regarding the sources of supply was given to the County Medical Officer for the necessary action to be taken by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

Two licences were issued by the Kent County Council for the production of Accredited milk; and the following licences were issued by the Urban District Council:-

Pasteurizer's licence to sell milk as Pasteurized	...	1
Supplementary licence to sell milk as Pasteurized	...	1
Dealer's licence to sell milk as Tuberculin Tested	...	1
Dealer's licence to sell milk as Accredited...	...	1
Dealer's licence to sell milk as Pasteurized..	...	1.

Pasteurization Plants.

There are two pasteurization plants installed in the district, but neither of them were in use during 1944.

Meat and Other Foods.

The Broadstairs and St. Peter's Meat supply is now procured from the Government Slaughter-house and Wholesale Meat Supply Depot, which is situated at Ramsgate.

During the year 1944 a total of 5 cwt. 2 qrs. 2 lbs. of food was condemned as unfit for consumption; this consisted of bacon, eggs, tinned milk, cheese, butter, tinned foods, etc.

The following inspections of food shops were made:-

Butchers	...	64
Bakehouses	...	9
Food Preparing Premises		56
Unsound food	...	76.

Civil Defence Duties.

Training of volunteers and Civil Defence personnel in decontamination of food and clothing was continued during 1944.

Other Civil Defence Matters dealt with:

Evacuation (Children, non-essential persons, aged and infirm);
 Evacuation of Expectant Mothers;
 Evacuation of Children to Residential Nurseries, to allow mothers to join the Services or to take up war work;
 Registration of Children entering the District;
 Provision of Footwear and Clothing for Evacuated Children;
 Cheap Railway Facilities to visit Evacuated Persons;
 Registration of "Next of Kin."

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Diphtheria Immunization.

The scheme outlined in previous reports remained in force, the immunization injections being carried out by the private medical practitioners in the town, who are remunerated in accordance with the scale approved by the British Medical Association.

Propaganda was carried out by the Health Visitor and School Nurse, in the Baby Clinics and also in the Schools.

Towards the end of the year it was thought that as the Urban District was filling up and children were returning from evacuation, more reliable figures were required of the percentage immunized against Diphtheria: and where children of school age were concerned, experience in a neighbouring town showed that a questionnaire through the schools was a most effective means of obtaining information, and permission was obtained to incur expense in having such questionnaire forms printed.

In December, as authorized by the Health and Housing Committee of the Urban District Council, forms of enquiry relating to school children and their younger

siblings, were circulated through the schools, and these were very fully completed and returned, thanks to the co-operation of the Head Teachers. The returns were analyzed in the office and a fairly comprehensive picture was made available of the state of immunization of the children in the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District. It was not 100% complete, because there were, of course, a certain number of pre-school children without older siblings in school, who were omitted: nor in the fluid state of the population at the time, could the list be claimed to be absolutely up to date.

An outline of publicity plans for an Immunization Campaign, to take place early in 1945, was considered and the Committee advised that advertisements in the Press on the lines indicated in the Brochure accompanying Ministry of Health Circular 170/44, should be published.

The names of the unimmunized, which were shown on the school enquiry forms, were passed on to the Health Visitor, with the request that she should make domiciliary visits upon them: and it was further suggested that the Publicity Campaign through the Press should be co-ordinated to correspond with her tour of visits.

The following table gives the particulars of the Diphtheria Immunization Scheme since its commencement: the slight difference in the total number of children immunized as represented by the sum total of those in the age groups 5 to 15, and the number represented by the sum total of the number of children at the end of 1944 in age groups, represents the children who have attained the age of 15 years and consequently no longer appear in the school records.-

Year.	No. of Children Immunized.		
	Under 5 Years.	5 to 15 years	Total
December, 1940 to 31st December, 1941.	166	175	341
1st January to 31st December, 1942.	99	122	221
Nos. Carried Forward.	265	297	562

Year.	No. of Children Immunized.		
	Under 5 Years.	5 to 15 years.	Total
Nos. Brought Forward:	265	297	562
1st January to 31st December, 1943.	67	5	72
1st January to 31st December, 1944.	145	20	165
T O T A L ...	477	322	799
Estimated Number of Children immunized at end of 1944, in age groups ...	346	441	787
Estimated Total Number of Children in the District at 31st December, 1944.	450	621	1,071
Estimated percentage of Children immunized at 31st December, 1944, in age groups ...	76.88	71.01	73.38

Supply of Serum.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is provided by the Council free of charge and supplied to medical practitioners for the use of the poorer inhabitants of the District in accordance with the Diphtheria Anti-toxin (Outside London) Order, 1910. A supply is kept at the Sanitary Inspector's Office and also at the County Police Station.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.Tuberculosis, etc.

The following is an analysis of the situation with regard to tuberculosis and other infectious diseases in the Urban District in 1944:-

T U B E R C U L O S I S								
New Cases and Mortality during the year 1944.								
Age Periods.	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 ...	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
15 ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 ...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 ...	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
45 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 ...	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
65 and over	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
T O T A L S.	6	2	-	1	2	3	-	-

The five deaths were of patients notified before death.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

It will be noted from the following table that the number of cases of notifiable infectious disease was very low as compared with the previous year, when there was a total of 225 cases and during which year there was a brisk epidemic of Measles. No epidemics occurred in 1944.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (CIVILIAN) DURING THE YEAR 1944
With ANALYSIS OF CASES UNDER AGE GROUPS.

D I S E A S E S.	Total Cases Noti- fied.	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths	A G E I N C I D E N C E											
				Under One Year.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over.
Typhoid and Para- Typhoid Fevers...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever ...	11	8	-	1	-	-	1	-	3	5	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough ...	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles...	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	2	-	-	-	-	-
Polio-myelitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia. ...	15	1	4	1	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	7
Puerperal Pyrexia...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery. ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas ...	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chickenpox ...	31	-	-	-	2	2	1	1	20	5	-	-	-	-	-
T O T A L S ...	73	9	4	2	2	3	3	4	29	13	-	3	4	3	7

The total deaths given are not the net deaths.

'Return' Cases - Nil.

In addition to the above, 3 cases of notifiable infectious diseases were notified among non-civilians stationed in the Urban District, as follows:-

Scarlet Fever	...	1
Malaria ...	...	1
Chickenpox.	...	1.

These patients were dealt with by the appropriate Authority.

Non-Notifiable Diseases.

No outbreaks of non-notifiable diseases were reported in the Urban District during the year.

Venereal Diseases.

This Authority is not responsible for the treatment of these conditions and during the year was not called upon to co-operate in any educational campaign.

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HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year

1 9 4 4.

G. L. BROCKLEHURST, M.D., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

*

Pierremont Hall,
Broadstairs.

3rd November, 1945.

To the Chairman and Members of the Joint Committee
of the East Kent (No. 1) United Districts.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my second Annual Report on the health of Herne Bay. The year has been free from any serious incident and the general health of the population has been very good indeed.

During the early part of the year, and again in the summer and autumn, enemy air activity caused many nights of disturbed sleep, but everyone seemed, after four years of war, to have become accustomed to such things and were none the worse for it.

The low birth rate and high death rate figures recorded are accounted for by the unusual distribution of population; a large number of young people left the town on National Service, and therefore the percentage of elderly people was increased. The infant mortality rate was high and we must hope for a reduction in this figure as life becomes more normal.

Apart from a small number of sporadic cases of Scarlet Fever and an epidemic of Measles; there was little infectious disease. The Scarlet Fever was mild in character and there were no deaths. In spite of the shortage of staff the Isolation Hospital was able to take all cases of infectious disease which required admission.

One of the most urgent questions to be dealt with in the immediate future will be the provision of houses and the Council are well aware of the work that has to be done in this connection.

In conclusion I should like to thank the Members of the United District Joint Committee and the Urban Dist-

riect Council, for their continued support during the year. My thanks are also due to my colleagues, and especially the staff of the Health Department and of the United District Joint Committee for their co-operation during a difficult year.

I have the honour to remain, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. L. BROCKLEHURST.

Medical Officer of Health.

HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT.SECTION A.STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (including inland water)	...	8,566 acres.
Population, 1944 (Registrar-General)...		14,050
Rateable Value (March, 1944)	...	£164,469: 0: 0.
Estimated sum represented by ld. rate..		£566: 3: 1.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total	M.	F.		<u>Herne Bay U.D.</u>	<u>England & Wales.</u>
Live Births-	232	124	108	Birth Rate	16.51	17.6
Legitimate	212	113	99	per 1,000		
Illegitimate	20	11	9	estimated		
				civilian		
				population		
				mid-1944.		

(Illegitimate percentage of total live births - 8.62)

Stillbirths-	8	5	3	Rate per	33.33	Not
				1,000 total		Avail-
				(live and		able.
				still)		
				births.		
Deaths	-	270	121	149	Death Rate	19.21
					per 1,000	11.6
					estimated	
					civilian	
					population	
					mid-1944.	

Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings
29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's
Short List):-

Herne
Bay U.D. England
 & Wales.

Deaths.

No.29. Puerperal		Rate per		
Sepsis..	1	1,000	4.16	0.28
No.30. Other Mater-		total		
nal causes.	-	(live and	--	1.25
		still)		
Total ...	1	births.	4.16	1.53

Death Rate of Infants under one
year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births...	60.34	46.00
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legiti-		
mate live births ...	56.60	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000		
illegitimate live births ...	100.00	Not
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	37	
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...	--	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	--	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	2	
		Avail-
		able.

INFANT MORTALITY		
Causes of Death: (Children under 1 year of age).		No. of Deaths.
Acute Broncho Pneumonia	...	3
Acute Gastro Enteritis	...	1
Atelectasis of Lungs	...	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	1
Enteritis ...	...	2
Influenzal Bronchitis	...	1
Intussusception	...	1
Marasmus ...	...	1
Meningocele of 1st and 2nd Lumbar Area		1
Prematurity ...	...	2

CAUSES OF DEATH IN HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT DURING 1944.

A L L C A U S E S.		Males	Females
		121	149
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	1	-
2.	Cerebrospinal Fever ...	-	-
3.	Scarlet Fever ...	-	-
4.	Whooping Cough ...	-	-
5.	Diphtheria ...	-	-
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	7	3
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis...	-	-
8.	Syphilitic diseases ...	1	1
9.	Influenza ...	1	4
10.	Measles ...	-	-
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio- Encephalitis. ...	-	-
12.	Acute Infectious Encephalitis.	-	-
13.	Cancer of buccal cavity and œso- phagus (M); uterus (F).	2	6
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	2	6
15.	Cancer of breast,...	-	2
16.	Cancer of all other sites ...	12	7
17.	Diabetes ...	2	1
18.	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	13	20
19.	Heart Disease ...	29	51
20.	Other diseases of the circulatory system ...	1	3
21.	Bronchitis ...	6	3
22.	Pneumonia ...	6	5
23.	Other respiratory diseases ...	4	7
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum..	4	2
25.	Diarrhœa (Under two years)...	-	2
26.	Appendicitis ...	-	3
27.	Other Digestive Diseases ...	7	1
28.	Nephritis ...	5	5
29.	Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	-	1
30.	Other maternal causes ...	-	-
31.	Premature birth ...	1	-
32.	Congenital causes, etc. ...	6	1
33.	Suicide ...	2	-
34.	Road traffic accidents ...	1	-
35.	Other violent causes ...	2	-
36.	All other causes...	6	15

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities.

All pathological and bacteriological work for the Urban District is carried out at the County Laboratory, County Hall, Maidstone, free of charge.

Ambulance Facilities.

(a) Infectious Cases.

The Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital Committee have an arrangement with the Whitstable and District Ambulance Committee for the removal of patients to the Isolation Hospital.

(b) Non-Infectious Cases.

An ambulance service for non-infectious and accident cases is provided by a Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, the Urban District Council making an annual grant towards the fund.

Nursing in the Home.

The District Nursing Association, which is affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association, provides a District (Queen's) Nurse.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

Dental Clinic.

There is a Dental Clinic in connection with the County Council's School Clinic.

Maternal and Child Welfare Centre.

The Centre is carried on in the Urban District by the County Council at the New Clinic.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinic.

This Clinic is held once a month at the new Clinic.

Orthopædic Clinic.

This Clinic is held at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury, the Surgeon in attendance being A. B. Beresford-Jones Esq., M.S., M.B.

Tuberculosis Dispensaries.

The Dispensaries at the Kent County Council Clinic in the Urban District and at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury, were available for the inhabitants of the town. For the days and times when the Dispensaries are open, see table on page 6.

Venereal Diseases Clinics.

Arrangements are in force whereby anyone in the Urban District suffering from Venereal Diseases, may attend the Clinics at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury, and at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Dover, for treatment. For the days and times the Clinics are open see table on page 6.

Hospitals.Isolation Hospital Accommodation.

Cases of infectious disease occurring in the Urban District are removed to the Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital for treatment.

Smallpox Hospital Accommodation.

The arrangement made with the Dover Town Council for the isolation of cases of Smallpox at the Borough's Smallpox Hospital at Poulton was still in force during 1944, but no cases of this disease occurred in the Urban District.

General Hospitals.

The Urban District is served by the Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital, Herne Bay, and the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury, for cases of non-infectious illness or accident.

Registration of Nursing Homes.

One Nursing Home was on the register at the end of the year, which provided for nine patients, six maternity and three others. The Medical Officer of Health made three inspections during 1944.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

The public water supply provided by the Herne Bay Waterworks Company is exceedingly pure, and frequent samples show that it is of excellent organic quality and bacteriological standard. This supply is constant and abundant and is derived from a deep well at Ford.

Scattered about the rural part of the district are 89 houses served by wells, springs, and by conservation of rain-water from roofs: this supply is of doubtful purity and is often insufficient during the summer months. High priority should be given to the provision of a public supply to as many as possible of these dwellings: this would be comparatively easy, and not costly in the case of houses at Bullockstone, where the need is most acute.

No dwellings are served from stand pipes, and 98% of the population and dwellings are supplied directly from the water mains of the Herne Bay Waterworks Company. The public supply is extremely hard water and therefore there is no danger of plumbo-solvent action upon lead pipes etc., and these soon become heavily coated with deposits of calcium carbonate.

There were no extensions of the public water supply during the past year.

Drainage and Sewerage.

No change was made in the Drainage and Sewerage Scheme during the year. The Senior Sanitary Inspector informs me that at 23 dwellings drainage systems were reconstructed and that complaints of choked drains were dealt with at 71 premises. There seems to be no doubt

that drainage defects are increasing, and undoubtedly there are many unrevealed fractured drains caused by the violent earth tremors resulting from bomb and mine explosions.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector reports as follows with regard to the sanitary circumstances of the area:-

Rivers and Streams.

From time to time, action was taken to secure prevention of discharge of effluent in a stream from the Gas Works.

Closet Accommodation.

In the Urban District there are 116 properties which are not connected to the public sewer, and these have either pail closets or cesspools. Only one is in a built-up part of the district, and this is served by a pail closet. All the remainder are in the rural area not yet served by public sewers.

At the premises of the South Eastern Joinery Works, Ltd., sanitary accommodation and washing facilities were specially constructed for both sexes.

Public Cleansing.

Great difficulty was experienced in securing dustbins, and a stage was reached towards the end of the year when several hundreds of houses were without proper receptacles: the position has since improved and 35 dustbins were provided upon service of informal notices.

Owing to war-time difficulties, collection of refuse takes place weekly instead of daily in the centre of the town, and bi-weekly in other areas.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

No. of inspections during the year	...	5,697
No. of notices served - (a) Statutory - 9)		
(b) Informal - 326)		335
Result of the service of such notices, i.e.-		
Defects remedied	...	863.

Shops and Offices.

During the year occupiers of shops were interviewed to explain the provisions of the Shops Acts and the Sunday Trading Restrictions Act.

Camping Sites.

The Emergency Defence Regulations prohibited camping in the Urban District since soon after the outbreak of war: however, a temporary licence was issued permitting a caravan to be used upon agricultural land at Eddington.

Smoke Abatement.

Occasional smoke nuisances are dealt with at a local factory.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No. of Council Houses found to be infested	...	Nil
No. of private dwelling-houses found to be infested.		5
No. of private dwelling-houses disinfested	...	5.

The method employed for the eradication of bed bugs at these houses was by application of "Cescones," but "Cyanide" is occasionally used when conditions are suitable.

Before a tenant occupies a Council House, all furniture is carefully examined at the former residence. If a person comes from outside the district to reside in Herne Bay, the furniture etc. is examined in the removal van prior to being taken into the house.

Disinfestation work is carried out by the Council on behalf of private owners, and is subject to a charge to cover the cost of labour and material. When "Cyanide" is used the work is performed by a contractor.

Re-inspections are made after disinfestation has been completed, to ensure that proper precautions are taken to prevent re-infestation.

Rodent Infestation.

Following the Ministry of Food direction to carry out a survey in 1943, and the subsequent further direction to deal with infestations revealed by the survey, activity in rodent destruction has continued with very good results upon the lines of the standard technique advocated by the Ministry of Food. All heavy infestations revealed by the 1943 survey have been eliminated, and there are fewer rats in the Urban District than for many years. A part-time Rodent Operator is employed and expenses are recovered from owners of private properties dealt with.

One hundred and forty-eight premises were cleared of rats during 1944, and 608 dead rats were recovered, although the actual kill must have reached a much higher figure. This work entailed a total of 2,076 visits and re-visits by the Rodent Operators, and only in one case was it necessary to take statutory action under the Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.

The sewers were dealt with, 279 manholes examined and 185 baited at all parts of the district. It is estimated that 200 rats were killed as a result of operations in the sewers.

Disinfection.

During the year 52 parcels of bedding were disinfected: eight parcels of bedding destroyed and 130 rooms disinfected.

Schools.

The Sanitary condition, water supply and milk supply of the schools was regularly supervised during the year. Enquiries were made at the schools attended by every child notified as suffering from an infectious disease; contacts were excluded and articles such as pens and pencils used by the patients were disinfected or destroyed.

SECTION D. - HOUSING.

The following report on the housing position was received from the Senior Sanitary Inspector.-

"Routine house-to-house inspection was not resumed during the year, but 192 houses dealt with upon complaint were thoroughly inspected, and notices (including four Statutory Notices under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936) served to bring them up to a proper standard of fitness and a full state of repair.

"During the course of the war it has been the policy only to require the execution of the more essential repairs, but it is now endeavoured to secure complete repair in so far as labour and materials are available.

"The population, which was reduced to 12,500 during the war, increased to nearly 15,000 towards the end of the year and this intensified the housing shortage.

"Between 200 and 300 private dwellings remained in use as military billets, although very many of these were not in constant occupation, and this gave rise to the impression that there were many empty dwellings in the town. To try to meet the housing shortage and to secure the occupation of empty dwellings not in military requisition, the Council decided to use powers of requisitioning houses for the needs of those inadequately housed. A Sub-Committee of the Housing Committee visited a large number of houses, and subsequently the owners were given the choice of either occupying the dwellings themselves or letting to tenants of their own choice. This resulted in the occupation of empty dwellings, but by the end of 1944 only one dwelling had been requisitioned as owners preferred to make their own arrangements to avoid requisitioning by the Council.

"During the year the Sanitary Inspectors dealt with 33 dwellings affected by dry-rot, which appeared to be most prevalent: this increase was probably due to the number of dwellings which were closed during the absence of the owners, as the lack of air movement in such dwellings is conducive to the growth of the dry-rot fungus. In remedying the dry-rot trouble, it was found that there was a lack of appreciation of the factors which are necessary to ensure adequate air-movement beneath the floors of a dwelling. Air bricks in external walls are frequently badly placed and badly spaced, and partition walls are not sufficiently honey-combed. Indeed, it was found that many partitions were built solid beneath floor level, and when such conditions are coupled with absence of oversite concrete and a complete sealing of the surface of the

floor by linoleum, the development of dry-rot fungus is inevitable. Many dwellings are constructed with wall-plates built into the partition walls, and when this plate is destroyed by the fungus, partition walls subside. It is a method of construction which should not be permitted.

"Fifty houses were made fit for habitation in all respects during the year, and repairs of a minor nature were carried out at 51 dwellings; a total of 608 visits being made to supervise repairs in progress.

"Seven cases of overcrowding were discovered and abated."

SECTION E.- INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Water.

Reports upon samples of the public water supply showed the following results:-

Bacteriological examination	... 14	(All satisfactory)
Chemical examination	... 14	(" ")

There were no new sources of public water supply during the year. Samples are taken every month and the results are consistently satisfactory.

No. of samples taken from wells.-	8	(4 Satisfactory)
No. of samples taken from springs	2	(2 Satisfactory).

Milk.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector and his staff made 240 inspections of cowsheds and dairies, and five notices were served upon cowkeepers and dairymen to secure improvements to cowsheds and dairies. At one dairy, a steam sterilizing plant, for the efficient cleansing of churns and other utensils, was installed; and the cowsheds at one farm were enlarged and improved, and a new dairy constructed. During the past seven years six dairy farms have been modernized and brought up to standard; and in the same period four unfit dairy-farms have closed down; there remain two dairy-farms which are of very poor standard.

All milk supplied at schools is now pasteurized and is regularly examined bacteriologically and by the phosphatase test.

Examination of Milk Samples.

Bacteriological Examination.-

The following samples were taken and submitted to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination:-

Grade of Milk.	No. of Samples taken.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Accredited Milk ...	31	27	4
Tuberculin Tested Milk	13	12	1
Pasteurized Milk (for public consumption)	31	28	3
Pasteurized Milk (taken by School Enquiry Officer)	4	4	-
Undesignated Milk ...	52	48	4
T O T A L S ...	131	119	12

Phosphatase Test.

Thirty-six samples of pasteurized milk were examined by the phosphatase test and 35 of these proved to be satisfactorily pasteurized.

Examination for Tubercle Bacilli.

Sixty-nine undesignated samples of milk were examined for the presence of tubercle bacilli and all proved to be negative.

Cleansing of Dairy Equipment.

Systematic efforts were made to improve the cleanliness of dairy utensils by periodical submission of rinse samples for bacteriological examination. Outfits were obtained from the County Medical Officer: these include 8 oz. bottles containing sterile water; this water is poured into the vessel to be tested, or over

the cooler, after which it is returned to the sterile bottle and forwarded, in an ice-box, to the County Pathologist. During the year 32 coolers and vessels of all kinds were tested in this way, and five of the utensils showed extremely high counts, proving failure to cleanse. Most of the samples were exceedingly good, with a high percentage almost sterile.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

The following licences were issued by the Urban District Council during the year:-

Licences to bottle Tuberculin Tested milk	...	3
Licences to bottle Pasteurized milk...	...	1
Dealer's Supplementary Licence to use the designation "Tuberculin Tested" ..	...	3
Dealer's Supplementary Licence to use the designation "Pasteurized" ...	...	2
Dealer's Supplementary Licence to use the designation "Accredited" ...	...	2.

There were nine Accredited Milk Producers and Producers of Tuberculin Tested Milk in the Urban District.

Meat and Other Foods.

Fourteen notices of slaughter were received and 15 animals were slaughtered at farms. These were all inspected after slaughter.

The Ministry of Food Centralized Slaughtering Scheme operates from Canterbury, and the Additional Sanitary Inspector inspects meat at the slaughterhouses in that town, by arrangement with the Canterbury City Council.

Representations had to be made concerning the unsatisfactory handling and conveyance of meat from Canterbury, and improvement resulted.

During the year a total of 14 cwt. of food was condemned in the Urban District, and this consisted of tinned foods, eggs, meat, cheese and fish.

The following inspections of food shops were made by the Sanitary Inspectors:-

27 Butchers' Shops	...	27 Inspections.
15 Bakehouses	...	)
2 Fried Fish Shops	...	)
12 Cooked Meat Premises...	)	101 "
28 Cafes and Catering Estab-	)	
lishments	...	)
6 Wet Fish Shops	...	25 "

There were three new registrations under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Riparian Sanitary Authority : Shellfish.

A case of Typhoid Fever, which unfortunately resulted in the death of the patient, was undoubtedly due to the consumption of infected oysters obtained from the beach, and not treated by one of the controlled methods of purification specified by the Ministry of Health in the Public Health Shellfish Regulations, 1934. Warning letters were sent to all local fish-mongers and fishermen.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Diphtheria Immunization.

The following table gives the particulars with regard to the Diphtheria Immunization Scheme since its commencement, from the 1st January, 1941 to the end of December, 1944. The satisfactory percentage of children immunized in the town is due to efforts of the Health Department staff and the Health Visitors in Herne Bay. A clinic is held monthly at the Welfare Centre and a reminder is sent to all mothers when their children are due to be immunized. It is to be hoped that a similar percentage will eventually be reached throughout the country: when this does happen, Diphtheria should become a rare disease instead of what it has been for years past.

Year.	No. of Children Immunized.		
	Under 5 Years.	5 to 15 years	Total
1st January to 31st December, 1941...	278	991	1,269
1st January to 31st December, 1942...	363	127	490
1st January to 31st December, 1943...	183	35	218
1st January to 31st December, 1944...	173	174	347
T O T A L ...	997	1,327	2,324
Estimated Number of Children immunized at end of 1944, in age groups ...	600	1,550	2,150
Estimated Total Number of Children in the District at 31st December, 1944...	1,395	1,858	3,253
Estimated percentage of Children immunized at 31st December, 1944, in age groups ...	43.01	83.42	66.12

Supply of Serum.

Diphtheria Anti-Toxin is provided by the Council free of charge and supplied to medical practitioners for

the use of the poorer inhabitants of the district, in accordance with the Diphtheria Anti-toxin (Outside London) Order, 1910. A supply is kept at the Queen Victoria Hospital.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

The following tables give the particulars with regard to cases of Tuberculosis and other notifiable infectious diseases which occurred in the Urban District during the year:-

T U B E R C U L O S I S								
New Cases and Mortality during the year 1944.								
Age Periods.	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 ...	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
5 ...	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
15 ...	3	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
25 ...	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
35 ...	-	1	1	-	3	2	-	-
45 ...	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55 ...	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 and over.	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
T O T A L S.	6	1	2	4	7	3	-	-

The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths was 1 to 10.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (CIVILIAN) DURING THE YEAR 1944
with ANALYSIS OF CASES UNDER AGE GROUPS.

67.

D I S E A S E S.	Total Cases Noti- fied.	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths	A G E I N C I D E N C E												
				Under One Year.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over.	
Typhoid and Para- Typhoid Fevers ...	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	23	6	-	1	2	1	1
Scarlet Fever ...	42	35	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	2	1	-
Whooping Cough ...	7	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-
Diphtheria ...	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
Measles... ..	262	2	-	6	16	28	14	27	46	16	3	-	2	2	-	-
Polioomyelitis ...	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia.	21	3	5	-	2	3	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Puerperal Pyrexia....	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-
Dysentery.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chickenpox ...	13	-	-	1	2	-	-	1	4	3	1	1	1	-	-	-
T O T A L S ...	355	47	6	8	20	36	17	31	79	26	7	9	10	4	8	

The total deaths given are not the net deaths.

'Return' Case - 1 Scarlet Fever.

In addition to the above, 3 cases of notifiable infectious disease were notified among non-civilians stationed in the Urban District, as follows:-

Scarlet Fever	...	1
Pneumonia	...	1
Malarial Relapse	...	1.

These patients were dealt with by the appropriate Authority.

Non-Notifiable Diseases.Food Poisoning.

At the beginning of February a child was found at the Blean Institution to be infected with the germs of food poisoning: all contacts were confined to the Institution and investigations carried out, but no more cases were diagnosed.

Scabies.

During the year cases of Scabies were treated at the Civil Defence First Aid Post.

Verminous Persons.

There are no facilities for the cleansing of verminous persons in the Urban District: clothing, however, can be disinfested at the Disinfecting Station.

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